

BAR HILL CHURCH

Minutes of Church Meeting held on Wednesday June 28 in the School.

Chairman: Dr Paul Gostelow.

Opening worship was conducted by the Rev. Hugo de Waal.

Apologies from four members.

1. Judy Dale was formally appointed minutes secretary.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes of 9 May

Paragraph 4. 25p for the Octagon should read 50p.

Last paragraph to be amended to "suggested" starting.

The invitations for the Opening are to go out by mid-July.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes of 12 June

Date in the heading to be amended to 1972.

10 - 14 Suggestions noted.

The Minutes were signed as correct by the Chairman.

4. Working Party on Church Membership, Baptism, Confirmation & Admission to Holy Communion

1. The Company asked that this Working Party should be set up by the Church Meeting drawing in such experts as they require, to submit specific proposals for consideration by the Company. It was decided that the Working Party should consist of five local members, including the clergy.

2. The Company recognised that its responsibility is for the experiment as a whole and not just for the building.

3. In order to make it possible for marriages of all participating churches to take place in the Church Centre, the building will have to be registered under the Shared Churches Act 1969. The one basic change from our present constitution involved in such registration is that the Act makes provision for the right of any participating denomination to conduct exclusive services of worship. Although this was not remotely likely ever to be the case in Bar Hill, it was decided that the matter was of sufficient importance in principle to postpone a decision until the A.G.M. or to a Special Church Meeting. It will take approximately five months to carry through the necessary legislation.

4. The Company accepted that the present constitution of the Area Committee was not satisfactory and agreed to the following alternative proposals:

- (i) that the Bar Hill Church Meeting as at present constituted should be recognised as in fact being the Area Committee.

- (ii) in order to facilitate communication between the Council of Management and the Church Meeting, the Church Meeting was invited to appoint three lay representatives with the right to attend and speak at meetings of the Council and to receive minutes.

The Church Meeting concurred with both proposals and decided that members of the Council of Management should be invited to accept the right to attend and speak at Church Meetings and to receive minutes

5. Finance Committee Report

- (i) A proposal that a fee of £3 be paid to a visiting member of the clergy not representing a denomination was accepted.
- (ii) A proposal that funds specifically raised for the Building be transferred to the Company account quarterly from 1 July 1972, and that other funds should be transferred at the discretion of the meeting was accepted.

6. Building Committee Report

The contract is due to finish at the end of July, therefore there will be a slight reduction in cost.

The following decisions were taken rising out of the Building Committee Report:

- (i) The ceiling should be painted by the contractors at a cost of £80 - £100.
- (ii) The cleaning of the floor to be done by volunteers.
- (iii) The following expenditure was authorised:

- £60 for nursery furniture
- £75 for exit lights
- £50 for fire fighting equipment
- £250 for Baptistry
- £60 for essential courtyard and garden work.

It was decided not to have a partition curtain in the meetings room for the time being.

The Playgroup is to be asked to go ahead with registration.

7. Fund Raising Schemes

The following fund raising schemes will take place:

Cake Stall hopefully to be organised for 15 July.

Jumble Sale on 11 November.

Individual fund raising scheme letter to be sent out.

Buy a Brick Scheme - bricks on sale outside the Church Centre on Monday 24 July.

A gift envelope to be delivered to every house with suggestion that it be brought when visiting the new building for the first time.

8. Church Membership

It was decided that a paper should be circulated for discussion

9. Preparation for A.G.M.

It was agreed for the time being to continue with our present structure of government. Re-thinking about this should take place during the next twelve months. A list to be compiled of all officers and jobs for the A.G.M.

10. Election of representative on the Eastern Province Synod of the United Reformed Church

David Donald was elected.

11. A.O.B.

A list to be put out for two visits to other churches on Sundays when Bar Hill services are not being held due to the school being closed.

Carol Pook gave notice that she would ask the A.G.M. that the Playgroup should become a Church Sponsored Playgroup.

The meeting closed at 10.15.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING AND ELECTIONS

will be held on MONDAY, JULY 24th, at 8.0 pm in the School.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the meeting held on June 28th
2. Formal approval of audited accounts
3. Proposed by "Shared Churches (Ely) Ltd"

"That the Bar Hill Church Centre be registered under the Shared Churches Act 1969".

This is the only way in which it will be possible to conduct marriages according to the rites of any of the participating Churches. In principle the Act allows the possibility to participating Churches to exercise the right to exclusive worship, something we would consider a backward step. In practice the whole experiment is so set up that it is highly unlikely that anyone would ever invoke this right and it is understood by all that the registration is done to enable weddings to take place.
4. Plans for the opening of the Church Centre
5. Report of group consisting of clergy, lay reader, secretary, chairman, and working party conveners which was asked to consider various matters outstanding from the reports. Recommendations as follows:
 - a. Constitution of Church Centre Management Committee
 - i) Brief - the committee should have executive power to deal with all matters relating to:
 - maintenance of the building
 - furnishing
 - caretaking
 - bookings
 - allocation of storage space
 - ii) Membership

Ex officio - Clergy : ^{Church} Secretary
Elected by the Church Meeting: Chairman - for 2 years
2 members for 2 years
2 members for 1 year

Co-opted. The committee has power to co-opt up to 2 more members to represent major users not already represented. Chairman of the Finance Committee right of attendance.
 - iii) Meetings It is expected that these will be monthly. Once a quarter approximately the committee would meet with representatives of all groups using the building.
 - iv) 6 members shall be considered a quorum.
 - v) Any decisions with less than 6 votes in favour must be referred to the Church Meeting for ratification before being implemented.
 - vi) Matters involving major issues of principle to be referred to the Church Meeting.
 - vii) A written report of all decisions to be made available to the Church Meeting at least quarterly.
 - viii) Unless there is a need substantially to change these proposals, elections to be held at this meeting.
 - b. Worship study group report - outstanding matters
 - i) Clergy to arrange services for the autumn in the light of the report and discussion to date.
 - ii) Creation of the post of Director of Music.
 - iii) Weekday evening prayer at 10 pm.